

From: [Shane Patrick Connolly](#)
To: [Supervisor Simitian](#)
Cc: [Chavez, Cindy](#); [Wasserman, Mike](#); [Ellenberg, Supervisor](#); [Cortese, Dave](#); [BoardOperations](#)
Subject: Letter from Santa Clara County Republican Party - Today's Agenda Item 12
Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 1:59:31 PM
Attachments: [2019-06-04 BOS Agenda Item 12 - Letter from SVGOP.pdf](#)

June 4, 2019

The Honorable Joe Simitian
President, Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Clara
70 W Hedding Street
San José, CA 95113

RE: Agenda Item 12 – Revisions to Board Policy 3.54 to allow cooperation with Federal Immigration personnel with respect to violent or serious felons

Dear President Simitian,

On behalf of the Republican Party of Santa Clara County, I respectfully request that you and your colleagues support the safety and well-being of all peaceful residents of our community by modifying Board Policy 3.54 to allow limited cooperation with Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) with respect to violent or serious felons, as proposed by our law enforcement professionals and District Attorney Rosen.

Public safety is of paramount importance to all who live in our community – regardless of origins or immigration status. All are put at risk when we give up important legal tools that are available to us that would stop preventable crimes from happening in our community. We should be especially concerned about releasing dangerous individuals into our community who are not authorized to be in the USA, since allowing ICE to removing these individuals will make our community safer. Keeping the extreme policy of complete non-cooperation with Federal immigration authorities to score political points or reinforce an ideological vendetta against the President of the United States will result in tragic outcomes like we have seen in cases throughout jurisdictions with such policies in place.

Opponents of limited cooperation with ICE argue that any cooperation breaks trust in the police amongst immigrant populations, yet there is no proof that this is true, and many of the immigrants who live in our community who fled violence in their home countries do not wish to be subjected to it here in the United States. Immigrants, especially, do not want people released who will return to their neighborhoods and bring the violence to them that they worked so hard to escape. Nothing breaks trust in the police more than having a violent felon taken to jail only to be released back into the community.

As District Attorney Rosen has pointed out before, it is often a romantic partner that is victimized by violent or serious felons that are released. Anyone who cares about violence against women should want to make the tool of limited ICE cooperation available to our public safety professionals.

Please listen to the voices of the quiet majority of our community, the District Attorney, and the law enforcement professionals who have requested a change to Board Policy 3.54. Give our public safety personnel every tool available to them, consistent with California law, to allow them to keep our community safe. Let them simply pick up the phone and, in a timely fashion, notify ICE with the date, time, and location that a violent or serious felon who is unauthorized to be in the United States will be released.

Sincerely,

Shane Patrick Connolly

Shane Patrick Connolly
Chairman



Santa Clara County Republican Party

522 N MONROE STREET, SAN JOSE, CA 95128 | www.svgop.com

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Santa Clara County Republican Party

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Shane Patrick Connolly
Chairman

CC: Clerk of the Board
Supervisor Wasserman
Supervisor Chavez
Supervisor Cortese
Supervisor Ellenberg